Claim Listing:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) Multiple-stage drilling tool with a chip groove for drilling different bit diameters as required, said diameters increase successively from stage to stage, characterised by: a first bit stage (1-1) being a core bit, at least one second bit stage (1-2, 1-3) arranged above it in the form of a step, all the bit stages (1-1, 1-2, 1-3) have at least one common chip groove, ~~Arrangement in accordance with claim 2~~, ~~further characterised in that~~ said chip groove has at least one flank and ~~that~~ said ~~at least one groove~~ flank is rounded, and whereby a hole can be drilled by said core bit leaving an uncut cylinder-shaped drilling core.

10. (Currently Amended) Arrangement in accordance with claim 9 ~~3~~, characterised in that said chip groove has an even or an arched base. ~~characterised in that said chip groove has at least one flank and that said at least one groove flank is rounded.~~

11. (Currently Amended ) Arrangement in accordance with claim 9 [[4]], characterised in that said chip groove has flanks of unequal height ~~and further characterised in that at least one groove flank is rounded~~.

Claims 12-18 (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) Multiple-stage drilling tool with a chip groove for drilling different bit diameters as required, said diameters increase successively from stage to stage, characterised by: a first bit stage (1-1) being a core bit, at least one second

bit stage (1-2, 1-3) arranged above it in the form of a step. ~~Arrangement in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that~~ said core bit of ~~the~~ said first bit stage has cutters running continuously from the inside to the outside whereby a hole can be drilled by said core bit leaving an uncut cylinder-shaped drilling core.

20. (Currently Amended) Multiple-stage drilling tool with a chip groove for drilling different bit diameters as required, said diameters increase successively from stage to stage, characterised by a first bit stage (1-1) being a core bit, at least one second bit stage (1-2, 1-3) arranged above it in the form of a step. ~~Arrangement in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that~~ said core bit of said first bit stage (1-1) has inner cutters (Ci1) and outer cutters (Ca1), said core bit includes heels, said core bit includes a plurality of chip grooves (S1, S2, S3, S4 and S5), said outer cutters (Ca1) are located adjacent to said heels (F1 to F5) and said plurality of chip grooves (S1 to S5), ~~and~~ said core bit has U-shaped notches (E) between two heels (F1 to F5), and each of said notches includes an inner cutter (Ci1), ~~is assigned to each notch (E)~~ whereby a hole can be drilled by said core bit leaving an uncut cylinder-shaped drilling core.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) Arrangement in accordance with claim 20, characterised in that each of said outer cutters includes a clearance angle and that said clearance angle (fa1) of each of said outer cutters of said core bit is between 6 and 15 degrees.

23. (Currently Amended) Multiple-stage drilling tool with a chip groove for drilling different bit diameters as required, said diameters increase successively from stage to stage, characterised by a first bit stage (1-1) being a core bit, at least one second bit stage (1-2, 1-3) arranged above it in the form of a step, ~~Arrangement in accordance with claim 1~~, ~~characterised in that~~ from ~~the~~ said second bit stage (1-2, 1-3) onwards[[,]] each bit stage has at least one outer cutter (Ca2, Ca3) having a clearance angle (fa2) and said clearance angle (fa2) is less than or equal to 10 degrees, whereby a hole can be drilled by said core bit leaving an uncut cylinder-shaped drilling core.

24. (Currently Amended) Arrangement in accordance with claim 23, characterised in that said clearance angle (fa2) of all ~~the~~ said outer cutters (Ca2) from the second bit stage (1-2) onwards are equal.

25. (Currently Amended) Arrangement in accordance with claim 23, characterised in that said outer cutter (Ca2) from ~~the~~ said second bit stage (1-2) is at an angle (s3) of between 0 and 45 degrees to an imaginary horizontal plane.

26. (Previously Presented) Arrangement in accordance with claim 20, characterised in that, said inner cutters include a clearance angle and that each said clearance angle of each said inner cutter is between 5 and 10 degrees.